

Message Text

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51

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 SCA-01 L-03 H-03 INR-10

CIAE-00 NSAE-00 INRE-00 /031 W

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O 191609Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6234

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: CI, CDES (HORMAN, CHARLES E.)

SUBJECT: DEATHS: INVESTIGATION OF REPORT OF DEATH OF
CHARLES HORMAN

REF: SANTIAGO 5088

1. UPON RECEIPT OF INFORMATION ABOUT REPORT OF DEATH OF HORMAN REPORTED REFTEL, EMBASSY SENT NOTE TO FONOFF REQUESTING COPY OF AUTOPSY, VERIFICATION OF FINGERPRINTS TAKEN FROM BODY, AND ASSISTANCE IN GETTING PERMISSION FOR EXHUMATION OF BODY.

2. EDMUND HORMAN INFORMED OF REPORT BY CONSUL AND INDICATED HE NOT SURPRISED AT THIS DEVELOPMENT IN VIEW OF INFORMATION TURNED UP IN INVESTIGATIONS CONDUCTED BY EMBASSY AND BY HIMSELF PERSONALLY. HE INDICATED HE APPRECIATED OUR EFFORTS TO DOUBLE-CHECK ON IDENTITY OF BODY, AND THAT HE WOULD ASK THAT BODY BE CREMATED IF FOUND TO BE THAT OF HIS SON. MR. HORMAN SUBSEQUENTLY INFORMED CHARLES HORMAN'S WIFE, JOYCE, OF PROBABILITY OF DEATH. I ALSO SPOKE TO MR. HORMAN AND JOYCE. EMBASSY ASSISTING BOTH TO RETURN TO UNITED STATES, POSSIBLY AS EARLY AS EVENING OF 20 SEPT. THIS, OF COURSE, DEPENDS UPON POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION OF BODY.

3. EMBASSY REALIZES THAT REPORT OF HORMAN'S DEATH MAY IN SOME ASPECTS CONFLICT WITH OTHER INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY
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PROVIDED. THESE AND OTHER CONFLICTS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED WITH

MR. HORMAN AS THEY COME TO LIGHT. DEPARTMENT SHOULD UNDERSTAND
THAT TYPE OF INVESTIGATION POSSIBLE UNDER LOCAL CIRCUMSTANCES
IS NOT THAT POSSIBLE IN US OR DURING NORMAL TIMES IN CHILE.
MUCH OF INFORMATION WHICH HAS BEEN TURNED UP BY EMBASSY AND
BY MR. HORMAN IS BASED ON RUMOR, HEARSAY, AND, PERHAPS, INTENT
TO CONFUSE.
DAVIS

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
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Disposition Reason:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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